

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention discloses a method of automatically bridging or routing, i.e. internetworking, data packets received on an Ethernet port in a telecommunications integrated services hub. The target media access control, MAC, address of a data packet is compared to the MAC address assigned to the Ethernet port on which the data packet is received and to the broadcast MAC address. If the target MAC address matches the MAC address assigned to the Ethernet port on which the data packet is received, the data packet is treated with a routing protocol and sent to a wide area network controller for transmission to the Internet. If the target MAC address of the packet does not match the hub MAC address, the data packet is bridged to the appropriate LAN port of the hub. If the target MAC address matches the broadcast MAC address, the data packet is both routed to the Internet and bridged to all LAN ports.